

SUDBURY AND DISTRICT QUILTING AND STITCHERY GUILD

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December 2007 Editor– Patti MacKinnon email: SDQSGuild@gmail.com or pattim51@persona.ca

PLEASE REMEMBER: no perfumes or scented body sprays at guild

The President's Ponderings

Well Christmas is upon us... I'm sure you're all like me; trying to get the house organized, cooking, cleaning, decorating, shopping and wrapping, visiting, and while you're doing all that, trying to find time to sit down at the sewing machine or sit and stitch for awhile.

Those times that are strictly for us are important! I find that if I get a few hours to sit and knit, or "hide" in my sewing room, I'm much more relaxed and able to deal with the stresses that life throws my way.

During this holiday season, try and remember what's the most important to you, and concentrate on that. Enjoy your families and friends; take a walk or a drive and look at the holiday lights; take a walk in the mall and enjoy the hustle and bustle, and be sure to take some time for yourself!

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!!
Susan Huot

Membership Committee

The membership committee wishes you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons and lots of time to engage in the things that feed your soul in 2009. Please extend a warm welcome to our newest member Monique Laverdière. As of November 27th we have 154 members. This includes 12 life members, 14 new members and 128 renewing members. Remember hard copies of the membership list are now available for 50 cents.

Sharon Bourque and Denise Leger
Membership Committee

Cuddle Quilt Report – December 2007.

Saturday, November 24th, was a beehive of activity as 21 guild members participated in our second Cuddle Quilt day of this session. Members had their choice of many diverse fabric panels from the estate of Marlene Sirkka. Daintry presented a wonderful session on how we could use these panels, add to them, and make them into larger quilts. She opened our eyes to many possibilities. Nicolle's great soup and goodies, provided by others, fortified us during our productive day.

Daintry made two cuddle quilt tops, to show as examples, for her session. We have the backing and batting for these quilts and are looking to have these quilts quilted. If you are interested, please speak with Janet Burns.

We would like to thank and acknowledge the support of Colombe, Daintry, Susan Huot, Lynn, Janet, Monique Laverdiere and Anita Flesher and her granddaughter, Sarah (age 10), who contributed quilts to our programme. Ann Scott, June Brown and Lynn contributed various sized knit hats for the infants in neo-natal.

INTAKE ITEMS TO DATE	TOTAL
quilts	93
memory quilts	2
tops	13
hats	22

Most of the donated quilts have been smaller children's sized quilts. Agnes Yorke, again this year, has been our Queen of Quilting - producing 22 quilts so far!

Mark the next Cuddle Quilt Saturday, January 12th, 2008 on your calendar. Our lesson/project for the day will be a quick and easy quilt. This quilt can be made from fat quarters, which are then cut into various sized squares and rectangles, or, from fabric scraps. The largest square needs to be 8.5". In no time you will complete a twin sized quilt top. An example of this quilt will be shown at the December 4th guild meeting.

We have been asked by the Iris Addiction Recovery Centre for Women (formerly Robin's Hill) for 4 twin bed sized quilts. These quilts are given to the ladies after the completion of 4 months in the programme, as a symbol of their commitment to and achievement in the recovery process. A very important gift. Contact Lynn for more details.

Lynn Binney
For the Cuddle Quilt Committee members - Janet,
Agnes, Mariette and Colombe

Sudbury & District Quilting and Stitchery Guild Program 2007/2008

Barbara Lipic and Daintry Chitaroni

December 2007

4th Christmas Ornament Challenge- while we all enjoy making and receiving a handmade ornament at the Christmas party, we rarely get to see them all. This year we ask the members to bring their ornament the week before to be displayed. Prizes will be awarded.

Christmas Show and Tell- bring your favorite piece of stitchery or your quilted project that you display every year at Christmas time to share with the members. You can discuss the techniques used, where you got the pattern or inspiration for the design, the story behind the piece, or your memories if it is an heirloom.

11th Christmas Party- details to follow

18th Helper Elf Night- If you are trying to finish a project for Christmas, or just need direction on a technique bring it to the experts. Our members will be happy to help!

Look for our special **Table Treats** to be shared with the group.

January 2008

8th Gadget and Project holder- if you attended the banquet last spring, you likely received one of

these as a party favor. Susan Huot has kindly agreed to show us how they are put together. Join us in the classroom- supply list will be provided.

15th Scrap Quilting with Pat Jacobson- join Pat in the classroom for instruction and demo - making a scrap quilt. Supply list will be provided.

22nd Scrap Quilting with Pat- Part 2

29th Group Night- Taking on Major Projects- If you are afraid to take on a long- term project such as Barbara's Oh My Gosh!, Daintry's Stars in the Garden and Garden Gate Projects, Estelle's Little Brown Bird quilt, or Patti MacKinnon's Dear Jane quilt, join us for an entertaining evening where we will discuss planning, organizing, finding bits of time and the art of patience and persistence. If you have done a major stitchery or quilt project please share with us! Those who attempted last year's Stitchery Sampler are encouraged to finish it and bring that in as well.

February 2008

5th Hand Applique with Estelle Biondi- join Estelle in the classroom as she demonstrates several techniques for doing appliqué by hand. You will go home with a stitched heart for Valentine Day. Fabric will be provided, bring red thread, a needle, thimble and small sharp scissors.

12th Valentine Social

IT'S SEW EASY TOO

Visit Cristel and the gals at the shop and see what classes she has upcoming! She has a very wide selection of classes, a lot of them with instructors from our guild. Maybe you will run into a quilt fairy there.

**313 Lorne St, Unit #4,
Sudbury, ON, CA P3C 5M9
Tel/Fax: (705) 675-1788
Toll Free 1-800-495-7181**

**Fabrics * Quilting Supplies
Classes * Custom Orders
Drapery & Bedding
Gammill Long-Arm Quilting Service**

**Husqvarna Viking Dealer
Owner: Christel Brandle
Owner: Tim Robson
email: itsseweasy@persona.ca**

GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

Currently, only 72 people have indicated that they will be going to the Christmas party, and have handed in table sheets (with the names of people at their table).

The dinner is at the Church of the Epiphany on Larch St. with cocktails at 5:30 on the 11th of Dec. Dinner is potluck. Don't forget your brown bagged ornament for the exchange.

I need to know by Tuesday night at the very latest, if there are other people planning on attending the Christmas party.

I also need their table reservations too.

If you haven't already signed the attendance sheet and/or given me a table reservation list, please email me by Monday evening and let me know if you are planning on attending.

You can email me your information to barbara.lipic@mti.ca. If I do not hear from you by Tuesday night, I will assume you are not attending the Christmas party.

Thank You, Barbara

Helpful Idea for practicing Machine Quilting

Here's an idea!! Find out from your local animal shelter the size of a kitty or doggie quilt/pad required for their use.....

Then sandwich these sizes up and your practice could be a useful gift to the community for the furples in your area needing homes..... just zig zag the edges and donate.....

Each pad could be your practice of a certain pattern..... this will free you up and give you the confidence to 'go for it' on a bigger quilt.....and even then I advise a baby quilt then move on to bigger items.....

Use up all those "What was I thinking" fabrics that followed you home over the years!!

Received in an email

Quilt and Needlework Show Stitches in Time

Friday February 1 &
Saturday February 2, 2008

10:00am - 4:00pm

Admission: \$5.00

First Grantham United Church
415 Linwell Rd.
St. Catharines, ON

Wheel Chair Accessible

Featuring:

Door Prizes, Peddlers Alley
Boutique, Lunch Room

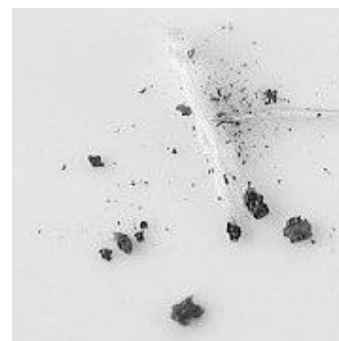
For more details:

jsward6@cogeco.ca
905-934-8398

Three Steps to Test Silk

There are three steps to check whether the silk ties you have really are silk.

- 1- Take a thread from the small end of one of the ties.
- 2- Light the end of the extended thread with a match.
- 3- Rub the burnt thread between your fingers.



Pure Silk: the remains of pure silk dissolves with little pressure and emit a smell like burned hair (protein)

Polyester: There is no residue and the burnt end remains hard

A bead site with free patterns

<http://www.daxdesigns.com.au/PATTERNS/pattFreepage1.html>

An excellent resource for stitchers.

<http://inaminuteago.com/stitchindex.html>

The ABCs of aging

As received in an email

A's for arthritis;
B's the bad back,
C's the chest pains, perhaps car-d-iac?
D is for dental decay and decline,
E is for eyesight, can't read that top line!
F is for fissures and fluid retention,
G is for gas which I'd rather not mention.

H is high blood pressure--I'd rather it be low,
I is for incisions with scars you can show.
J is for joints, out of socket, won't mend,
K is for knees that crack when they bend.
L is for libido, what happened to sex?
M is for memory, I forget what comes next.
N is neuralgia, in nerves way down low,
O is for osteo, the bones that don't grow!

P is for prescriptions, I have quite a few,
just give me a pill and I'll be good as new!
Q is for queasy, is it fatal or flu?
R is for reflux, one meal turns to two.

S is for sleepless nights, counting my fears,
T is for Tinnitus; there's bells in my ears!
U is for urinary; big troubles with flow,
V is for vertigo, that's "dizzy," you know.
W is for worry, NOW what's going 'round?
X is for X-ray, and what might be found.
Y is another year I'm left here behind,
Z is for zest that I still have -- in my mind.

I've survived all the symptoms, my body's
deployed, And I am keeping twenty-six doctors fully
employed!!! Author Unknown

Princess of Precision Screws Up

Catchy title isn't it? It did happen to me
though. Some of the best laid plans that require
precision should not be attempted when one is over
tired. Somehow 'those' bright ideas really should be
saved for when one is wider awake.

I was cutting out pieces for a rag quilt that I
was making with a 4 ½ inch center block and I had a
really cute fabric with purple dragons and little kids
on it. To this I was going to add a row around with a
print that was subtle and 1 ½ inch wide. Then to allow a
bit extra for the ragged seams I cut the next round
of kids prints at 2 inch wide.

I cut 6 ½ inch long strips for the short ends
and then cut 9 ¼ inch strips for long sides so I would
have a wee extra for squaring up. While I was pleased
with myself for having this already to sew I decided
to go through my stash to look for a suitable backing
for a little girl. I didn't have any pretty girly flannels
to use so I checked out the cottons and found a piece
with white teddy bears dressed in fancy outfits,
definitely a Christmas print but also definitely too
girly to have used for my grandsons and Ms Kaitlyn is
getting old enough to inform me that it would be good
for a 'little girl'.

I measured the piece and found I had a piece that was
90+ inch long and 44 inch wide. This is where my idea
started to head south. In my excitement at having
enough a quick estimate gave me 36 blocks based on a
10 inch block or 40 based on a 9 inch block, and I
really only needed thirty. Well, a compromise sounded
really good at this point so I cut out 9 ½ inch backing
blocks. All was going great as I chain pieced my way
around the 30 center in a courthouse steps log cabin
style. After I added the first two 6 ½ strips on the
outside row of the first block, the 'nagging in the back
of the mind thought' became reality. 9 ¼ inch strips
just would not work. I had cut up just about every kid
or fun type print I had so now I had to get creative.
Got myself a soft drink and pondered my dilemma. I
was bound and determined I was not going out to buy
anything to make the three small quilts I wanted to
make for the little kids.

After some careful consideration, I removed
one of the 6 ½ inch strips from the first block. I then
threw all the strips of both sizes into a bag and gave
them a good shake. I then proceeded to pull out one at
a time and sewed it to the short end of the previous
one chain piece style. I ended up with the cutest mile
and a half of what looked like a curly garland. The only
time I tossed one back in was if I got two of the same
fabric.

Being quite pleased with this idea I then
proceeded to snip between the first few joins, finger
pressed the seam since they would get pressed soon
enough anyway, and proceed to sew the strips back on
in a log cabin style. A lot of them ended up with the
same fabric butting up to the previous side and giving
a little different dimension to the whole outlook of
the block.

When something like this happens, I think it is
time for the princess of precision to get back to
working on those little blocks again!!!

Patti MacKinnon

Twelve Evenings of Guild Meetings

*On the 12th night of Guild
I saw at the library...*

*12 books to browse through
11 magazines to flip through
10 patterns to choose from
9 historical quilt blocks
8 traditional stitches
7 seasonal project ideas
6 friends to chat with...
5 brand new books!
4 techniques to learn about
3 items to take home
2 more for next week*

... and a friendly librarian (and her assistants!)

Hello again from the library committee! While this is often a busy time of year, we hope you also take time to cozy up with a good book. If you would like some inspiring winter reading, come on in to the library and borrow something from our wonderful selection of old favourites and new additions. This month's new books include:

Take Two and Add a Few by Atkinson Designs
Long and Short Stitch Embroidery by Trish Burr
Turning Twenty by Tricia Cribbs
Turning Twenty Again by Tricia Cribbs
Easy Does it for Winter by Nancy Halvorsen
Fast, Fun and Easy Fabric Vases by Linda Johansen
Hooked on Triangles by KB Johannessen and TM Uren
Toppers 2 by Lynda Milligan and Nancy Smith
Just Can't Cut It by Pamela Mostek
Decorating with Quick and Easy Quilts by Debbie Mumm
Quilts from the Heart by Karin Renaud
Embroidered Gardens by Helen M. Stevens
The Casual Quilter by Robin Strobel
Creative Quilt Collection Volume 2 by That Patchwork Place
Hand-stitched Samplers by Sandra White
Twosey-Foursey Quilts by Cathy Wierzbecki

We recently also had several items donated to the library. Thank you!

Amazing Mosaic Patchwork by Patsy R. McCoy
(donated by Laura Townsend)

Christmas Cross-stitch by Better Homes and Gardens
(donated by Diane MacKenzie)

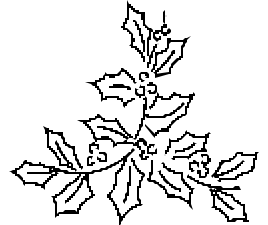
The McCall Book of Quilts by The McCall Pattern
company (donated by Diane MacKenzie)

Miniature Needlepoint Collection by J. Berman and C.
Lazarus (donated by Diane MacKenzie)

Quilting with Folded Star by Elaine DeLancey
Shinners (donated by Diane MacKenzie)

Russian Quilt Exhibit (DVD) (donated by Kay
Sweetman)

The library committee
wishes you a wonderful holiday
season.



Quick Christmas ornaments

Quilted ornaments:

http://www.cameoroze.com/interests/crafts/05_quilt_orns.htm <--- these are from cheater panels, but the designs are quite simple, a kids colouring book from one of the buck stores would make good patterns

http://images.etsy.com/all_images/7/7fc/842/il_430xN.14136699.jpg <-- same idea goes for the designs shown in this little wallhanging etc

<http://www.primraggs.com/primraggsornie.htm> ← If anyone likes primitives, here is an angel
<http://www.primraggs.com/annietieon.htm> ← This one is made to tie onto gifts.

<http://www.wearableables.com/> ← This site is just the neatest site for embellishment ideas, a few free ornaments, the neatest buttons.

Leaders and Enders

There is an article in the January/February issue of Quiltmaker by Bonnie Hunter that has to do with using leaders and enders when you machine piece. Rather than just use scraps, she suggests using pieces for 2 inch or so blocks instead. Not only does this maintain the consistency of stitching line width, but you end up with two quilts eventually instead of just one. Bonnie is on my Dear Jane list and this discussion came to my attention. These small pieces would make good sashings also.

If you get onto the website: www.quiltville.com you will find all the instructions for the quilt right there... you can print it off to have a paper copy. Look under 'leaders/enders' on the left side of her webpage to get the directions for the blue and white quilt that's in the magazine. The leaders/enders system is wonderful! One lady in my DJ group used to throw out all these scraps of fabric with mega threads on them on a regular basis and when after she came across the website, she cut a stack of 2" blue and white/offwhite squares and stacked them beside her sewing machine. Whenever she finished a seam, she put two together; eventually made four patches out of them. She did the same thing with half square triangle squares and in less than a year had a complete quilt top done between other projects.

Newsletter

This is the third issue of the newsletter and I have received a lot of compliments on them so far. With all the practice I have had, I should be perfect one of these days. I have noticed though that it does get easier to do as I go along, and a lot of praise goes to having articles submitted by different committee members.

We have quite a number of people that receive the newsletter online which really cuts down a lot on our printing costs. I have also cut down the number of newsletters mailed out of town as they email theirs to me and I email ours to them. With printing and stamps, each out of town newsletter is a cost of just over a dollar each as long as there aren't more than 7 sheets of paper in a newsletter.

The executive agrees that emailing newsletters to members is a great cost saving to the guild. I know that very few on the email list have trouble with being able to print out newsletters as they are a pdf file, and they can be opened in Adobe Acrobat Reader. I know occasionally I go to open a pdf file and my acrobat tells me that there are errors and it can't open the file. If this is happening to you, save the file to your hard drive, the 'My Documents' folder is a good place for them as it is usually the first folder a program opens when you go to look for something. Now open Adobe Acrobat, choose File/open and find the copy of the newsletter you just saved. It should open just fine this way, and I am asking you to please try this before you decide that your computer just won't open it.

For those that feel it costs too much to print off your own copy of the newsletter at home, please remember that those that prefer a paper copy at guild instead, should be paying a 50 cent fee to cover our printing costs. The first issue or two at guild I don't charge any of the emailers for as it is hard to know who all gets it by email until the membership list is completed.

For those that do print it at home, you can go into your printer options and change the resolution you print at. My Epson printer lets me print at a 360 resolution which is a draft mode. I find it a bit pale and use the 720 resolution on it. With my HP printer I have a choice of print modes including Fast Draft, fast normal and then the better settings that use more ink. I usually print out copies on Fast Normal with the HP printer. I don't have to worry about that as much now as I save the cost of printing the original by uploading the newsletter to the Staples website, and placing the order online from the comfort of my living room. This is so much nicer than having to go out in cold miserable weather to drop it off, and then returning later that day or the next day to pick it up.

Another thing I have noticed by doing it this way is we don't have the occasional problem of two pages sticking together while printing and having to get them to redo the newsletter at the last minute. I rarely ever print a newsletter that doesn't have an even number of pages, so that a blank last page usually means they missed something. The only time I plan a blank last page is if there is a survey to be filled out. This way I don't have to find something less important to put on the other side of the survey and people don't end up giving away part of their newsletter. A win/win situation.

Secret Pals

Hope all the secret pals are enjoying themselves now. I know I had to be a bully last month, and hope I won't have to again. Because of the shortage of time before the sheets were handed out, I wasn't able to get a photocopy of the sheets with the information filled out on it. Please don't lose your sheets with the pertinent info needed for occasions in your Pals life. If you do misplace it, please come see me and I will kindly ask them for a list of any dates needed. I am sure you will remember whether they are mainly a quilter or stitcher or both.

Hope every one has a great holiday season.

Patti